

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: August 2, 2004

Contact: Ernie Seneca
Phone: 919/733-5612

**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES THAT MORE THAN \$2.1 MILLION
IS BEING SOUGHT FROM FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that six local governments and one state agency have been recommended to receive grants totaling \$2,126,471 for outdoor recreation projects under the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

“For almost 40 years, Land and Water Conservation funds have provided significant support for our efforts to protect open space and enhance recreational opportunities for North Carolinians,” Easley said. “The program also complements our One North Carolina Naturally initiative designed to protect open space and significant natural resources across our state.”

The grants would develop park projects in Williamston, Bethel, Raleigh, Union County, Cabarrus County and Morehead City. In addition, the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation would receive funding for land acquisition along the Mayo River in Rockingham County as part of Mayo River State Park.

The grant recommendations have been forwarded to the National Park Service in Atlanta for final approval. Response from the National Park Service is expected in early September.

Since it was established in 1965, the LWCF program has awarded more than \$70 million to state and local recreation agencies in North Carolina. LWCF has funded more than 850 land acquisition and development projects in 97 of North Carolina’s 100 counties.

Grants awarded as part of the LWCF program are matched with local funds. The grants supplement local and state dollars to provide expanded outdoor recreational opportunities to the citizens of North Carolina.

###